

**LUCY ROBBINS WELLES LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MAY 10, 2010**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Paul Crosswaith, Dennis Doyle, Anna Eddy, Judy Igielski, Pauline Kruk, Iris Larsson, Alan Nafis, Maureen O'Connor Lyons, Eric Rothauser, Neil Ryan, Diane Stamm, Trudie Walker

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Sue Halpin, LeeAnn Manke, Tony Palermino

**STAFF**

Marian Amodeo, Library Director  
Lisa Masten, Assistant Library Director  
Gail Whitney, Secretary for the Board

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON**

Kris Nasinnyk

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS ABSENT**

David Nagel

**FRIENDS MEMBERS**

Mary Jane Michaels

**BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON ABSENT**

Sharon Braverman

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Eric Rothauser at 7:06 PM.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**II. SECRETARY'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS/MINUTES**

Judy stated she had received no correspondence, and reminded Board members to let her know if a card should be sent regarding an illness, death, or congratulatory.

**MOTION:** Trudie Walker a motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of April 12, 2010, Judy Igielski seconded the motion, and the motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of April 12, 2010 was unanimously approved with a 12-0 vote.

### **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no Public Participation.

### **IV. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Iris reported that \$6,000 of a \$25,000 bequest for the Legacy Society has been received.

### **V. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Marian reported that April was another banner month. May programs include a program with Craig Hotchkiss on "Baseball as Mark Twain Knew It," and another program with Diana McCain presenting "It Happened In Connecticut." There will be an open house "meet and greet" for Superintendent Dr. William Collins on May 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 6:45 PM at the Newington High School cafeteria. The June/July/August Footnotes will be quite large with information on the three summer reading programs and all the related events. On Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> the Economic Development Commission will be holding a breakfast at Indian Hill Country Club. The Newington Chamber of Commerce's Annual Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> where they will be honoring The Friends of the Library with the Public Service Award. The technology grant for \$30,000 has been applied for through the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and notification will be on June 17<sup>th</sup>. If the Library is successful in receiving this grant, there will be a media blitz. The Library received word that a \$25,000 bequest has been made through the Charitable Trust of Viola Maestre who passed away in 2003. Ms. Maestre named 25 places to share in this bequest and the Library has already received \$6,000 of this \$25,000 bequest for the Legacy Society.

In personnel news, Marian reported in April that Peg Counihan would be on extended medical leave, however Peg has announced her retirement effective May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Elizabeth Berman of Kaestle Boos has made revisions to the renovation plan as per suggestions made at the April meeting. These will be shared with the Board at the June meeting. Kaestle Boos is prepared to make the presentation of the expansion project to the Town Council when the time comes.

### **VI. ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Lisa reported that a new service is in place: Text A Librarian – people can dial the number, key in the question, and a librarian will respond via text. Should the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving grant for technology be approved, the Library will use it towards enhancing a wireless system.

### **VII. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Mary Jane Michaels reported that the book sale's budget was \$27,000, but preliminary numbers look to be \$30,000 for both the November and May sales; they are just waiting

on expenses before releasing the net profit. There were not enough children's books so the Friends have decided not to sell books at the WaterFall Festival or during February vacation so there will be more in stock at the 2011 Annual Book Sale.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. PEP (Planning, Evaluation, Policy)**

#### **1. Library Director's Completed Evaluation Form Due Tonight**

Trudie stated she is waiting on a couple of evaluations from the Board members. The PEP Committee will review the evaluations and send a letter to the Town Manager with this information.

### **B. Investment Committee**

Neil reported that for the first quarter the Oakmark fund is up 6% and the six funds through Vanguard are up 4.6%; this is as of March 31, 2010. A meeting with Carol Miller-Pekrul will be scheduled for mid-June.

### **C. House Committee**

#### **1. Update on Shutters**

Diane reported that she ordered a sample and unfortunately she doesn't feel they would hold up, so she is back to the drawing board and will look at a composite shutter to paint black. She stated that Lynn Caley has been very helpful with this shutter search. Once the shutters are received, the Town will install them.

In the Board's packet there was a picture of a tree. The Town's arborist, Steve Torfeldt, suggested this Japanese Stewartia tree and feels it will work well in the designated area. The Friends will donate this tree, and a ceremony will be held acknowledging this donation along with a plaque displayed at the tree.

### **D. Facility and Site**

Iris stated there was no report.

### **E. Fund Development**

#### **1. Latest Legacy Society Gift**

As reported earlier, the Legacy Society has received a bequest of \$25,000 which will be acknowledged at the Annual Meeting in September. Anna nor Marian have contacted Jane Maciel regarding the revision to the brochure. Anna thanked Marian for a great article in the Footnotes newsletter on the Legacy Society.

Anna asked the Board if they receive anything in the mail from forums such as this and feel the language is appropriate, to please share it with Anna and Marian. Library staff will convert the existing PowerPoint presentation for the Library's website. In the fall, a program with Carol Miller-Pekrul will be presented about the Legacy Society and donations to the Library.

F. Budget

Maureen had no report.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Expansion Study Update

Marian reported on this during her report.

B. 5K Road Race

Eric reported that the 5K Road Race is scheduled for Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. The t-shirts look great, there are lots of prizes thanks to Anna and Dennis, there are 90 registrations, and 30 on-line registrations, more register day-of. Any help by Board members will be greatly appreciated and please arrive by 7:00 AM on Sunday morning.

C. Board of Education Meetings Support

Eric attended the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, Paul attended the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, and Maureen will attend the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. No one has signed up to attend the May 12<sup>th</sup> or June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, however Maureen stated she would also be available for the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Eric stated that the Board of Education discussed textbooks and the impact of electronic readers.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Bylaws Revision Committee Report

Eric reported that the By-Laws Committee met after the April Board meeting with three attendees. They reviewed the provisions and will meet over the summer to present a proposal to the Board in the fall.

Eric appeared on the "About The Town" show on Channel 14 with Tom Bowen. Eric thanked Pauline for suggesting this. Tom indicated that he would like the Library to be involved and appear on more programs.

Eric asked the Board if they would like to place a personal message for the Friends in the Chamber's Annual Meeting Program Booklet. **MOTION: Anna Eddy made a motion to place a personal message advertisement in the Chamber's Annual Meeting**

**Program Booklet for \$60.00, Dennis Doyle seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Trudie reported that she and Sue Halpin will alternate attending the Friends monthly Board meetings. Trudie will attend the June meeting and Sue will begin in September.

Gail reported that she spoke at the TPZ meeting during their discussion of the 2020 Plan and gave her opinion on keeping the Mill Street entrance from Cedar Street closed to traffic.

**XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no Public Participation.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: Judy Igielski made a motion to adjourn, Diane Stamm seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion to adjourn was unanimously accepted with a 12-0 vote at 7:43 PM.**